11th March 1929]

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" May I know whether Government will give an opportunity to the public to make their representations also in the matter before they come to a final decision ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" That will be considered, Sir.".

Revenue from and expenditure on the Buckingham canal.

* 1669 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the total capital expenditure on the Buckingham canal ;

(b) the annual revenue in each year from the time the canal was opened ;

(c) the annual expenditure during the same period ;

(d) the loss or gain in each year ; and

(e) the percentage of profits, if any, in each year from 1900 to 1928 ?

A.—(a) The total capital outlay to the end of 1927–28 was Rs. 90,57,596 inclusive of indirect charges.

(b), (c) & (d) Figures only from 1916–17 are readily available. They are given below :—

		Revenue.	Expenditure.	Loss.
		LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
1916–17	...	0·67	1·24	0·57
1917–18	...	0·79	1·42	0·63
1918–19	...	0·87	1·97	1·10
1919–20	...	0·81	2·25	1·44
1920–21	...	0·77	2·25	1·48
1921–22	...	0·79	2·46	1·67
1922–23	...	0·74	2·70	1·96
1923–24	...	0·79	2·96	2·17
1924–25	...	0·80	3·32	2·52
1925–26	...	0·78	3·37	2·59
1926–27	...	0·75	3·25	2·50
1927–28	...	0·75	3·04	2·29

(e) There are no profits.

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" May I know whether the hon. Member intends to close the canal seeing that there are losses year after year ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" From previous discussions it was understood that the House was strongly in favour of the continuance of the canal and wanted money to be spent on its improvement."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, in view of the losses, whether the Government have any proposal to increase the fees so as to make the canal self-supporting ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Yes, Sir ; I think in reply to questions that have been asked, the Government announced that they propose to increase the fees gradually."

TAMILNADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS

[11th March 1929

Mr. D. Narayana Raju :—"May I know whether the Government propose to increase the licence fees on boats plying on the Buckingham canal alone, or also on boats plying in other parts, for instance, in the Godavari and Kistna deltas?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—"The proposal that I referred to was only with regard to the Buckingham canal."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"Apart from the increase of fees, may I know whether the Government have any other measures in contemplation to make the loss less than what it is now?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—"At the present moment I cannot remember anything else; any suggestion will be welcome."

Irrigation

Investigation of the Vemanda branch project.

* 1670 Q.—Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the investigation to carry on the Vemanda branch project in Kistna district has been completed;

(b) when the project will be executed; and

(c) what is the number of acres likely to be benefited by it?

A.—No such project is under contemplation. If the hon. Member refers to the Vempad branch project, estimates for the scheme to irrigate about 4,500 acres of short crop in the Kistna Eastern Delta have been received from the Chief Engineer, and referred to the Board of Revenue for report on its financial aspect. On receipt of the Board's report the scheme will be taken up for consideration.

Issue of water from the Red Hills lake for irrigation purposes.

* 1671 Q.—Dr. B. S. Mallayya: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) when the issue of water for irrigation from the Red Hills lake was started last year;

(b) what the level of water in that lake was;

(c) whether the issue of water for irrigation is still going on;

(d) what the amount of water issued for irrigation from the Red Hills lake up to 10th February is;

(e) what the quantity of water that is issued daily is; and

(f) how long the Government propose to issue water at this rate to the ryots without causing anxiety to the city supply?

A.—(a) 5th December 1928.

(b) + 44·47 feet.

(c), (e) & (f) The answer to clause (c) is in the negative.

(d) 62·75 m.c.ft.